

Appl. No. : 10/059,580  
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Enter the 2/2/07  
Amendment  
NC 3/12/07

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 34-38 and 44-48 without prejudice, amend Claims 33, 39, 43 and 49, and add new Claims 52-54 as follows:

5 1. -27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously presented) A method of conditioning light energy in an optical communication system, comprising:

providing first electromagnetic radiation having a plurality of information associated therewith;

10 providing second electromagnetic radiation;

providing an atomic medium;

irradiating said atomic medium with said first electromagnetic radiation; and

selectively irradiating said medium with said second radiation, said second radiation at least in part controlling the propagation of said first radiation through said medium;

15 wherein said act of selectively irradiating comprises controlling the application of said second radiation to said atomic medium based on receiving input from said communication system; and

wherein said method further comprises diverting at least a portion of said first radiation for propagation within said communication system apart from said atomic medium.

20 29. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 28, wherein said act of receiving input comprises receiving information relating to the dispersion of said at least portion of said first radiation.

30. (Cancelled)

25 31. (Previously presented) A method of conditioning light energy in an optical data communication system, comprising:

providing first electromagnetic radiation having information associated therewith;

providing second electromagnetic radiation;

providing an atomic medium;

30 irradiating said atomic medium with said first electromagnetic radiation to store at least part of said information therein;